GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5983
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2012
WITHDRAWAL OF EPF BY INTERNATIONAL WORKERS
Abdulrahman Shri

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the Employees` Provident Fund (EPF) rules, the withdrawal of accumulated balance standing to the credit of international workers or foreign nationals account is now permissible only at the time of his/her retirement from service;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any international workers or foreign nationals who worked in India or abroad have been finding it difficult to withdraw their money or earn any interest since the Government have stopped payment of interest on inoperative EPF Account;

(d) if so, the details of such international workers whose EPF accounts have been lying inoperative; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to allow these workers to close their accounts?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE)

(a) & (b): In accordance with amended para 69 (under para 83 of Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952), an International Worker is allowed to withdraw the full amount standing to his credit in the fund:

on retirement from service in the establishment at any time after attaining the age of 58 years;

on retirement on account of permanent and total incapacity for work due to bodily or mental infirmity duly certified by the medical officer;

In respect of a member covered under a Social Security Agreement entered into between the Government of India and any other country, on such grounds as may be specified in that agreement.

(c) to (e): The provisions of Inoperative accounts are not applicable in respect of International Workers.